

In re Patent Application of:

PERMAR, JOHN

Serial No. 10/764,350

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In the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0028], as follows:

Referring initially to FIGS. 1-3, a first embodiment of a folding knife 20 according to the present invention is now described. In FIGS. 1-2 1 and 2, the folding knife 20 is illustrated in an opened position. In FIG. 3, the folding knife 20 is illustrated as being moved between ~~the~~ an opened position and a closed position. More specifically, the folding knife 20 includes a front cover and a rear cover, but is illustrated in FIGS. 1-3 without the front cover for clarity.

Please amend paragraph [0032], as follows:

The folding knife 20 also includes a lock bar 30 pivotally connected to the handle 24. More specifically, the lock bar 30 is ~~movable~~ moveable between an engaged position and a disengaged position. The folding knife 20 includes a lock bar connecting member 22 connected to the handle 24. Further, the lock bar ~~20~~ 30 has a lock bar connecting member passageway formed therein. The lock bar connecting member passageway receives the lock bar connecting member 22 to pivotally connect the lock bar 30 to the handle 24. The lock bar connecting member 22 may be provided by a lock bar connecting pin, for example, or another type of connecting member suitable for pivotally connecting the lock bar 30 to the handle 24.

Please amend paragraph [0034], as follows:

The lock member 25 also includes a second lock member 46 adjacent the first lock member 40. The second lock member ~~40~~ 46 is defined by a bottom wall 47 and a sidewall 48 extending upwardly therefrom. The bottom wall 47 of the second lock

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member 46 illustratively contacts the second sidewall 42 of the first lock member 40 to form an L-shape.

Please amend paragraph [0035], as follows:

As illustrated in FIGS. ~~1-2~~ 1 and 2, the lock bar 30 is preferably in an engaged position when the blade 26 is in the opened position. As illustrated in FIG. 3, the lock bar 30 is moved from the engaged position to the disengaged position to move the blade 26 from the opened position to the closed position. When the blade 26 is in the opened position, a portion of the first sidewall 43 of the first lock member 40 contacts a portion of the first sidewall 56 of the first lock member recess 53 to define a contact point 88 between the lock bar 30 and the blade 26.

Please amend paragraph [0037], as follows:

As perhaps best illustrated in FIGS. ~~1-2~~ 1 and 2, the bottom wall 47 and sidewall 48 of the second lock member 46 are spaced apart from the bottom wall 58 and sidewall 59 of the second lock member receiving recess 57 when the lock bar 30 is in the engaged position. The sidewall 59 of the second lock member receiving recess 57 is also spaced apart from the lock pin 70 when the blade 26 is in the opened position.

Please amend paragraph [0038], as follows:

As further illustrated in FIGS. ~~1-2~~ 1 and 2, when the blade 26 is in the opened position, the lock pin 70 illustratively contacts the bottom wall 58 of the second lock member receiving recess 57, and also contacts the second sidewall 42 of the first lock member 40. Further, the sidewall 59 of the second lock member receiving recess 57 is spaced apart

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from the sidewall 48 of the second lock member 46 when the blade 26 is in the opened position. Accordingly, when the blade 26 is in the opened position, and the lock bar 30 is in the engaged position, the lock pin 70 contacts portions of the blade and portions of the lock bar 30 to advantageously provide additional lock stability to the blade.

Please amend paragraph [0041], as follows:

The blade 26 illustratively comprises an upper edge 62, and a lower edge 60. The lower edge 60 may be a sharpened lower edge. The upper edge 62 and the lower edge 60 of the blade 26 extend from the proximal end portion 50 of the blade initially spaced from one another, to the distal end portion 51 of the blade, where the upper edge 62 and the lower edge 60 of the blade meet to form a tip 64. The upper edge 62 of the blade 26 may include portions that are sharpened.

Please amend paragraph [0043], as follows:

A recess 36 may be formed in a proximal end portion 32 of the handle 24. The recess 36 allows a user to access the proximal end 32 of the lock bar 30 to move the lock bar between the engaged and the disengaged positions.

Please amend paragraph [0044], as follows:

The folding knife 26 20 may also comprise a lock bar spring member 80 connected to the handle 24 to engage a portion of the lock bar 30. When a user depresses the lock bar 30 along the recess 36 in the handle 24, the spring member 80 provides a predetermined amount of resistance. Further, upon releasing the lock bar 30 adjacent the recess 36 in the handle 24, the resistance provided by the spring member 36 80 returns the lock

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bar to the engaged position. It should be noted that the lock bar 30 is generally in the engaged position, and is moved to the disengaged position when moving the blade 26 between the opened and closed positions.

Please amend paragraph [0048], as follows:

The tapered and threaded lock pin 70' advantageously allows a user to adjust the tension of the lock strength to be compensated for wear, when needed. Further, the tapered and threaded lock pin 70' advantageously allows a user to adjust positioning within the lock pin receiving recess 74'. The other elements of the second embodiment of the folding knife 20' are similar to those of the first embodiment, are ~~labeled~~ labelled with prime notation, and require no further discussion herein.

Please amend paragraph [0049], as follows:

Referring now additionally to FIGS. ~~8-9~~ 8 and 9, a third embodiment of the folding knife 20" is now described in greater detail. The third embodiment of the folding knife 20" illustratively includes a lock bridge 90". The blade 26" of the third embodiment of the folding knife 20" has a first lock member receiving recess 53" and a second lock member receiving recess 57" formed therein.

Please amend paragraph [0050], as follows:

The lock bar 30" of the second embodiment of the folding knife 20" includes a lock member 40". The lock bridge 90" may have an H-shape so that a medial portion of a first side ~~93"~~ 92" of the lock bridge ~~90"~~ may contact the sidewall 42" of the lock member 40", and so that a medial portion of the second side ~~92"~~ 93" of the lock bridge is adjacent to the sidewall 59"

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of the second lock member receiving recess 57" when the blade 26" is in the opened position. More specifically, the medial portion of the second side 92" 93" of the lock bridge 90" is spaced apart from the sidewall 59" of the second lock member receiving recess 57".

Please amend paragraph [0051], as follows:

The lock bridge 90" may have a trapezoidal shape, but may also have another shape suitable for contacting portions of the lock bar 30" when the lock bar is in the engaged position, as understood by those skilled in the art. The lock bridge 90" further illustratively includes a set screw 91" and a set screw receiving passageway formed therein. Both the set screw 91" and the set screw receiving passageway are preferably threaded to thereby engage one another when turning the set screw to position the blade 26" to a desired height.

Please amend paragraph [0053], as follows:

The lock bridge 90" advantageously enhances the lock strength of the folding knife 20" associated with contact between the lock bar 30", the set screw 91", and the blade 26" when the blade is in the opened position and the lock bar is in the engaged position. The other elements of the third embodiment of the folding knife 20" are similar to those of the first embodiment, are ~~labeled~~ labelled with double prime notation, and require no further discussion herein.

Please amend paragraph [0054], as follows:

Turning now additionally to FIG. 10, a fourth embodiment of the folding knife 20''' is now described. The fourth embodiment of the folding knife 20''' illustratively

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includes a lock pin 70''', and a lock bar 30''' including a first lock member 40''' and a second lock member 46'''. The blade 26''' illustratively includes a first lock member receiving recess 53''' defined by a bottom wall 54''', and first and second opposing sidewalls 55''', 56''', ~~57'''~~ extending upwardly therefrom.

Please amend paragraph [0055], as follows:

The fourth embodiment of the folding knife 20''' further illustratively includes a blade set screw 100''' for setting a desired height of the blade 26'''. The blade 26''' further has a blade set screw passageway formed in the bottom wall 54''' of the first lock member receiving recess 53''' for receiving the blade set screw 100'''. The blade set screw 100''' and the blade set screw receiving recess may be threaded so that the height of the blade set screw may be adjusted by a user, thereby adjusting the height of the blade 26'''. The other aspects of the fourth embodiment of the folding knife 20''' are similar to those of the first embodiment of the folding knife 20, are ~~labeled~~ labelled with triple prime notation, and require no further discussion herein.

Please amend paragraph [0056], as follows:

A method aspect of the present invention is for locking a folding knife 20 in an opened position. The method may comprise moving the blade 26 to the opened position, and moving the lock bar 30 to the engaged position so that a portion of the lock member 25 contacts a respective portion of the blade 26 adjacent ~~at~~ the lock member recess 53 to thereby define a contact point 88 between the lock member and the blade when the blade is in the opened position.